

HONORING NATIONAL NURSES
WEEK

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 2, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2.7 million registered nurses in the United States. I encourage our nation to join me in celebrating their dedication and commitment to the health care needs of America during National Nurses Week. This year it begins on May 6 and ends on May 12, which is Florence Nightingale's birthday.

Professional nurses are an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients. The depth and breadth of the nursing profession consistently meet the different and emerging health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings. These settings include hospitals, home care, clinics, offices, extended care centers, schools, military service, corporations, and hospice among others. Indeed, our nurses touch all of our lives in a positive way.

National Nurses Week was first celebrated in 1954 on the 100th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's mission to Crimea. Nurses have continually been recognized for their outstanding contributions to the American health care system ever since. Nurses today represent women and men from all walks of life, and reflect the people who live in the communities that they serve. Employment among nurses will grow faster than the average for all occupations through 2006, and nurses will become increasingly important as the demographics of our country change dramatically in coming years.

The theme of this year's week is "Nurses are the True Spirit of Caring." The theme could not be more appropriate. These individuals blend a scientific mind, technological know-how, compassionate heart, and helping hands in their day-to-day caring of patients.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize and celebrate National Nurses Week with America's 2.7 million nurses. These special individuals truly do embody the spirit of caring.

RESPECT FOR ILO CORE LABOR
STANDARDS IN THE GLOBAL
ECONOMY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 2, 2001

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of efforts of the International Labor Organization (ILO) to ensure that the core labor standards are applied and enforced in every workplace around the world. The international community has defined these four core labor standards: (1) freedom of association and collective bargaining; (2) prohibition of forced labor; (3) prohibition of child labor; and (4) prohibition of workplace discrimination.

These labor standards are the most basic and fundamental rights of workers everywhere, and almost every government in the

world has pledged to uphold them. Yet many governments, including our own, too often turn a blind eye when these fundamental rights are violated.

Too many workers around the world face illegal firings, death threats and even assassination when they try to utilize their freedom of association by joining a union. Last year alone, more than 100 union leaders in Colombia were murdered, and the Colombian government has granted the perpetrators of these assassinations virtual impunity. Closer to home, every year an estimated 10,000 American workers are fired just for exercising their right to join a union.

Long after the abolition of slavery, forced labor has now resurfaced in the global economy. Too many women and men are tricked into debt schemes and then forced into indentured servitude, as we continue to see happening under the American Flag in places like the Northern Mariana Islands and most recently in American Samoa. And let us be clear: these kinds of abuses, deceptive labor practices, often involving foreign nationals seeking to improve their lives by migrating to the United States, are not uncommon on the U.S. mainland, either.

Too many children still spend their days in front of a sewing machine instead of in front of a desk in a school. And too many completely qualified individuals are still fired simply because of their race, sex, age, religion or sexual orientation.

Our challenge is to actually enforce the fundamental rights that have been agreed to by all of the member nations of the ILO. And the first step in enforcement is ensuring that workers, employers and communities across the globe are aware of the fundamental labor rights. That is why I rise today in favor of the ILO's global campaign to hang this poster, which simply lists the four core labor standards, in every workplace in every country of the world.

This poster alone is not a substitute for trade agreements that enforce the core labor standards, but it is an important start. Those multinational corporations that subject their employees to poverty wages and dangerous working conditions are only going to change those practices when all of their employees know about these rights and have the ability to demand them within the legal process.

REMARKS DELIVERED BY THE
REV. GEORGE F. LUNDY, S.J., ON
HIS INAUGURATION AS PRESIDENT OF WHEELING JESUIT UNIVERSITY

HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 2, 2001

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, I recently joined the Wheeling Jesuit University community in celebrating the inauguration of the Rev. George F. Lundy, S.J., as the university's sixth president. It was a pleasure to help welcome this thoughtful, highly regarded educator to the Wheeling Jesuit campus.

Father Lundy's leadership of Wheeling Jesuit University follows successful assignments at the University of Detroit Mercy, where he was academic vice president and provost, and

at Loyola University of New Orleans, where his tenure included service as acting president.

He brings to the Wheeling campus the benefits of his experience at these institutions, as well as personal qualities which include a high level of enthusiasm, a commitment to the enrichment of young minds, and a passion for service to the greater community.

These qualities were evidenced in the remarks that Father Lundy delivered March 16 at his inauguration ceremony. His words were a source of insight into the challenges that face modern educational institutions, and the commitments that they must meet if they are to succeed in today's world.

Therefore, I submit Father Lundy's inaugural speech to be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The remarks follow:

First, I'd like to thank all of you for taking so much time out of your busy schedules to join this great celebration today. Certainly, it's a personal celebration for me, but even more so, I think it's a celebration for the entire Wheeling Jesuit University community, the city of Wheeling, and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

It's very humbling, too, to think of all of the hoopla that is paid when we inaugurate new presidents. I was reminded of Jimmy Carter's idea when he was running for President, that the teachers ought to get more pay than the principals because they do the work that is so much more important, and I certainly feel that way about our fine faculty here at WJU. So, this is for all of us.

It is a time when we collectively renew a number of commitments that are very much a part of the fabric and the genius of our history. First, we renew our commitment to all of our students, to provide you with a great education in the Catholic and Jesuit traditions. We challenge you to read real books, to your own deep understanding of our world, its past and its present, so that you can help shape it in the future. We challenge you to deepen your values of justice and compassion, your abilities to choose wisely, and your skills to communicate with clarity and passion.

We will continue to care deeply for each of you as a unique human being and encourage you to see in every person a child of God with dignity, hopes and dreams. We pray that you will develop a passion for what we Jesuits call a preferential option for the poor, so that you will graduate with a commitment and the skills to help the least advantaged among us realize their hopes and dreams.

And, of course, it is not enough to renew that commitment without sharing a few things with our visitors that you are already doing. We recognize the students who went down to Moorhead, Kentucky, over break to build houses, and the students who live in the Mother Jones house downtown and work extensively in the community, student teaching in the social services centers, the soup kitchen and much more. Just a few examples of the ways that our students are engaged, and we believe that this kind of integral education is the kind that represents our best hope for future leadership.

Every time I talk about the high idealism of Jesuit education, I am reminded of what one former Provincial said at the big Jesuit higher ed gathering at Georgetown a number of years ago. He said, "you know, all this lofty stuff about high idealism is great, but what you have to remember is that the reason Jesuit schools got started was because there was this tremendous need for somebody to take care of unruly boys."

Of course, now it's boys and girls and for the most part, not unruly at all, but very impressive young men and women.

Today, we are proud also to renew our commitment to the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston and the Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio, which includes all of the area just to our west. We are committed to partner with Catholic communities all across the region to help as creatively and effectively as we can, in the ministries of Catholic education and leadership development. I am so proud of the many, many ways that so many of our faculty and staff are already involved by serving on the boards of many service activities, and as leaders in their parishes, Catholic and non-Catholic. But the focus of this commitment needs to be renewed.

Bishop Schmitt, just last year, completed a very successful synod planning process that focused the goals of the Diocese very clearly, and we're very proud to be involved with the follow-up to that process to help make sure that this renewed vision actually happens.

Today, we also renew our commitment to our local and regional communities, to be a good institutional citizen and to participate in the activities of our area. I am continually amazed and edified when I hear from so many of you how appreciative you are of the many ways that the members of this Wheeling Jesuit community participate in service to your organizations in so many different ways. We are proud to join with Mayor Sparachane in contributing to the city's economic development efforts. We are proud to join hands with our fellow religious congregations of every denomination and tradition in the Hopeful City coalition. We are equally proud to be involved in the community renewal efforts of the Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Valley Industrial and Business Development Corporation, and through our membership in Project Best, which assures that collective bargaining is involved in all of our construction projects.

Today we renew our commitment to our public partners at the federal, state and local levels. New technologies reflect much human creativity, and we have the opportunity to help translate that creativity into new visions for a better life and a stronger economy in our post-industrial, increasingly knowledge-based economy. In the coming months and years we will translate these opportunities into new economic vitality here in our own region.

We shall also do our part to continue improving education by developing new curricula for students in our K-12 schools, and by helping teachers use technology more effectively to help students learn. Congressman Mollohan made the remark that there are probably no other universities this size in America that have been entrusted with so much responsibility in terms of fulfilling the public purpose.

I get questions about what goes on in those shiny glass and brick buildings on campus. I think it is worth it for all of us to reflect on a couple of the big points regarding those federal projects. The story goes that when Lyndon Johnson was president, he turned one day to an aide and said, "Son, all of this money that we are spending on research, how much of it ever benefits the taxpayers in economic development?" And the answer was, "Well, none of it Mr. President because all federally funded research is in the public domain. It can't be privately owned and therefore it doesn't have any commercial value."

And so, several successive presidents worked on that problem and in 1980, laws were passed that enable the benefits of federally funded research to go back to the taxpayers in the form of commercially develop-

able intellectual property. So this research can be copyrighted, it can be patented, it can be, therefore, used in business development.

And that is the main thing that happens in that big building you see that says "Robert C. Byrd National Technology Transfer Center." That is their big job—getting that research back out to people that can use it for business development.

The other center that we have, the Erma Ora Byrd Center for Educational Technologies, produces educational software for use in teaching mostly math and science to students in the K-12 schools. They have several award-winning products and they also do on-campus training of teachers in the whole area of what they call problem-based learning.

Problem-based learning places learners in a specific situation and requires them to draw on everything they know from many disciplines to solve a problem. The CET also works closely with our Challenger Learning Center. You may have noticed that we always have a few buses on this campus. We have school groups coming in to fly the Challenger missions. Those are space mission simulations. Some of the kids are in the control room and some of the kids are up in the cockpit of the rocket and they encounter certain kinds of problems with the flights and they analyze certain kinds of satellite data about what they see on the Earth.

There again, in that sort of simulated environment, they have to solve a whole bunch of problems that draw upon their knowledge of math and science and other disciplines. It's a great way of learning and our studies have shown that the learning outcomes are just fabulous if you can teach in these kinds of simulated environments. So, we are moving that whole product into distance delivery. They are going to do 180 of those this year over the Internet and we believe that we are refining something that could be a very forceful new national model in improving education for our younger students.

So as I have told Senator BYRD and Congressman MOLLOHAN on previous occasions, the opportunities represented by these technology centers for economic development and the improvement of American education, were part of the reason that I was grateful to accept the Board's invitation to come here as your new president. I have thoroughly enjoyed the faculty, the staff, and the students. This is a very friendly, a very caring, community and I am proud to be among your number.

TRIBUTE TO BRIGEN WINTERS

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 2, 2001

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the outstanding work of a member of my staff. Brigen Winters, tax counsel to the Committee on Ways and Means, has worked long and hard on this pension reform legislation. His knowledge, his diligence, and his judgment have been of tremendous assistance to me and the other Members of the Committee.

Brigen could not be with us today. He is presently at the hospital with his wife, Jennifer, and his newborn son, John Brigen "Jake" Winters. Jake was born early yesterday morning. Both Jennifer and Jake are doing well. I congratulate Brigen and his growing family. Brigen has not only helped us improve retire-

ment security for working Americans, but also provided us with future funding for the Social Security trust fund.

HONORING CORINE YBARRA

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 2, 2001

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a pioneer and a patriot, Corine Ybarra, whose work was part of the massive effort on the part of the United States Government to thwart the problems we anticipated with conversions in our national computer systems at the dawn of the year 2000.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the work of Corine Ybarra, who was the recipient of a Small Business Administration (SBA) medal crafted to honor efforts associated with Y2K, the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion.

Mrs. Ybarra has consistently exhibited the qualities of a professional throughout the course of her career in computer technology. She began as an intern 30 years ago in Houston with the United States Small Business Administration. She was then transferred to Dallas and eventually relocated for the final time back to Harlingen.

As a result of consistently pursuing her education, Mrs. Ybarra's responsibilities, as well as her position gradually expanded. She met the challenges associated with her responsibilities with the tenacity and professionalism we are celebrating today.

Eventually, Mrs. Ybarra realized the goal of her professional pursuit—she became a computer specialist. She sought such a position because she knew it was central to our economy and our government . . . it was eventually central to the efforts of SBA's preparation for Y2K. She overcame the challenge of Y2K with grace, poise and success.

Mrs. Corine C. Ybarra is not only a pioneer for the field of computer technology but a model citizen for us all. Through her efforts she creates a pleasant and productive working environment.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me today in commending Corine Ybarra for her outstanding contribution to the stability of our business community.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE OSTEOPOROSIS EARLY DETECTION AND PREVENTION ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 2, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to address an important health care concern that affects nearly 30 million Americans. It is especially appropriate that I rise today because May is Osteoporosis Prevention Month. Osteoporosis is a disease characterized by low bone mass or brittle bones. The statistics are startling. For instance, 71 percent of women with osteoporosis are not diagnosed, leaving them at increased risk for fractures. Osteoporosis causes 300,000 new hip fractures each year. Less than one-third of patients fully recover from a hip fracture and only